STACK 3

FACTSHEET FIVE

the not-dead-yet zine of crosspollination & crosscurrents, shleps its way to you from Mike Gunderloy, snowed in at Superlative Manor (aka BBBTLE), 41 Lawrence St., Medford, MA 02155; pjone (617)-391-3496. This is Pretzel Press publication #383, and is itnended for direct mailing to the Good Folks, as well as inclusion in an APA or two. Frequency: Irregular. Press run: 150 copies. Begun 12 December 1982. 5th Issue. All rites reversed.

*****

Well, they said it couldn't be done, but here I am again. Let's call this the February 1983 issue, and just between us, it's not likely to be bimonthly like I said last time. Perhaps quarterly. Anyhow, the reason this is so late is simple: I'm broke. So, starting with the very next issue:

YOU DON'T GET ANOTHER COPY WITHOUT SENDING 40 CENTS IN STAMPS!

That means, very simply, you aren't going to get the fifth issue unless you send me forty cents worth of stamps, or that much or more in cash. Really. I mean it this time--unless there is a gold star after your name in the envelope, in which case you've won a contest or something & don't have to pay. Which reminds me, Bob Gillie was kind enough to send in a sizeable hunk of his lunch money last month, and so he doesn't have to pay either. There's a moral in there someplace.

*****

The second FF contest is still waiting for a winner. To remind you, the question remains: what book is dedicated: "To Bob Geiger, for reasons that need not be explained here --and to Bob Dylan, for Mister Tambourine Man"? C'mon, it's not that hard. Most of you have read it. Prizes include a lifetime subscription to this rag and other valuable considerations to be announced later.

And now for the news.

*****

THE KANSAS COLLEGE OF COLLAGE (PO Box 8187, SM, KS, 66208) publishes a Journal, jam-packed with obscure Xerox art, juxtapositions of absurdities from everyday life, custom underwear, and other comments on the times. I guess. Maybe you can figure out what this is--send a couple of stamps, and if the envelope barks at you, I'd advise not opening it.

*****

IMPOSSIBLE BOOKS (Box 172, 3952 N. Southport, Chicago, IL 60613) is an anarchist bookstore that operates mainly by mail. They carry a variety of titles ranging from classics by the likes of Kropotkin and Bakunin to Anarchist songbooks and pamphlets for Solidarity. Includes a number of items I haven't seen elsewhere--catalog available for 20 cents postage.

*****

RHUBARB (c/o Anne Bernstein, Apt. #1, 1038 Park Ave, Hoboken, NJ 07030) is a newsletter for the Radical Humor Union Network, whatever that is. Indeed, the first two issues (#2 came out in November) are devoted largely to trying to decide just what Radical Humor is. No hard-and-fast answers have emerged as I write this; however, Anne's roommate Kristin is trying to start a few arguments by suggesting that all radical humorists are basically insecure. There are real possibilities here, well worth the $1 it'll cost you.

*****

ID NTITY (Box 382 CR, Baltimore, MD, 21203) sends a report on an attempt to undermine reality maintenance traps. I don't understand this, I don't know what I did to get a copy, and I don't know how you can get one, but if you find yourself low on drugs this might help.

*****

SNAFU No. 4 ($2 from Free Kluck Comix, Box 2306, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4A6, CANAJIA) "Obscurely defiant--defiantly obscure" as it says on the cover. New Wave comics in a variety of styles. Send 50 cents for the full Free Kluck catalog & see what you think.

*****

SELL OUT (c/o Bill-Dale Marcinko, 153 George St #2, New Brunswick, NJ 08901). Sell Out is Bill-Dale's list of things for sale by mail--records, rock stills, movie press kits, comics, rock fanzines, and more--at quite reasonable prices (as far as I can tell; it's not my major field). The latest issue is available for an SASE.

*****

PROMETHEUS Vol. 1, #1 (c/o Ben Olson, Treasurer LFS, RR #1, Box 114, Pocahontas, IA 50574) is the newsletter of the fledgling Libertarian Futurist Society. Discussion of the LFS at Chicon, a review of E.T., a report on the 4th general assembly of the World Future Society. Competent but basically dull writing, without any overall direction. $8/yr; $10 with LFS membership.

*****

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE Vol. 1, #3 (CP. 95, Stn. Place d'Armes, Montreal, Quebec, H2Y 3E9 CANADA) is a bilingual journal of anarcho-pacifism. Just recently getting off the ground, so the layout & production are a bit rocky (I should talk?) but the contents are very interesting. A much broader view of the international anarchist movement than one can get from most U.S. publications. Interesting stuff on the 'Direct Action' bombing of the Litton cruise-missile plant and Canadian anti-nuclear movement. $1 an issue.

TO APEIRON Vol. 1, #1 (CP. 95, Stn. Place D'Armes, Montreal, Quebec H2Y 3E9 CANADA) is another bilingual review by the same people who put out Civil Disobedience. This one bills itself as the "Paper of Libertarian Pagans", apparently trying to fuse two non-establishment groups together. News & reviews, with more emphasis on the "libertarian" than on the "pagan". Somewhat slanted against science, but contains material I haven't seen elsewhere. $1 for a sample issue if this sounds like it might become your sort of thing--I have the impression that future issues may be very influenced by readers' suggestions.

*****

EDITIONS (Boiceville, NY, 12412) is a mail-order seller of used books. They put out an extensive catalog of used books in all fields about every two months, which are then sold (first come, first served) to their subscribers. The books I have purchased from them have arrived promptly and proven to be in very good condition. Prices range from $2.65 to $200 or more. $1 will get you a sample catalog.

*****

INSIDE JOKE #16 (c/o Elayne Wechsler, 418 East Third Ave., Roselle, NJ, 07203) is out, and carries assurances that this worthy publication will continue, though perhaps at a slower pace. Elayne has been serializing THE LAW AND ORDER HANDBOOK, which is a hilarious (if frightening) satire on the right-wng point of view. (I hope it's satire!) Also in terribly poor taste was the cartoon entitled "Jody Foster Fan Club." $1.

*****

THE CONNECTION 107 (c/o Erwin S. Strauss, 9850 Fairfax Square #232, Fairfax, VA 22031)is what was formerly called The Libertarian Connection. It's an apa filled with a myriad (well, 109) pages of teeny-tiny reduced print, mostly on the subjects of anarchy, minarchy, panarchy and similar perversions. Not really for the beginner, since the participants have developed an elaborate confusing array of abbreviations and conventions to talk about their dream societies with. Still, it looks to be a good place to hone one's anarchist ideas (if any). $2, I guess, will get you a copy.

*****

SRAFederation Bulletin 78 (PO Box 21071, Washington, D.C. 20009) is going monthly starting in January. The caliber of anarcho-communist discussion here seems to have dropped in recent months, but I hope that's just a temporary slump. $6 per year.

*****

L5 NEWS, October 1982 (1060 E. Elm, Tucson, AZ 85719) does a lot to rekindle my faith in the Society that prints it. The letter column is mostly filled with angry replies to the issue I labeled "Fascists in Space" (See FACTSHEET FIVE #3). Apparently the rank-and-file of the Society is largely interested in freedom, no matter how asinine the editor of their newsletter may be. Subscriptions $12/year.

*****

SCAPA FLOW 25 (c/o Keith Williams, POB 2960, Bell Gardens, CA, 90201) is the latest issue of the Southern California Amatuer Press Association for Lasfsians and Other Writers. Keith seems to have inherited sort of a sinking ship here, but there is still some interesting writing going on. I have a soft spot in my ~~head~~ heart for this apa--I used to be in charge of it. Anyways, the bimonthly deadlines may be right for anyone looking to ease slowly into the wonderful world of apahacking. $1 for a sample issue.

*****

REFRAC PUBLICATIONS (BCM Refract, London, WC1N 3XX) has taken over for the now-defunct Cienfuegos Press Ltd. (which for the last ten years was an anarchist publisher). Refrac promises sounder monetary policies and higher-quality books. If this proves to be the case, they should be worth staying in touch with. You can get their literature in the U.S. by writing to Cienfuegos Distribution, 3512 12th Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN, 55407.

*****

"The book-dedication quote is, of course, from The Best of Stanley Weinbaum---right?" Well, Candi, you'd better get back in touch with 'Bob' for another opinion on that, 'cause that's not where I got it from.

*****

SPARE CHANGE #3 ($1 from Box 18441, Tampa, FL, 33679) has arrived, bringing with it a random assortment of goodies from one of the more active Kerry Thornleys in the world. My own favorites were the stock certificate from the Church of the SubGenius, and the Second SNAFU Principle: All rewards and punishments teach anyone is how to reward and punish.

*****

CHURCH OF THE LATTER DAY PUNKS #3 (40 cents from 611 Lawrence Ave., Westfield, NJ 07090) landed in my mailbox like a ton of industrial waste. Interesting if you like punk, you can miss an awful lot if you're not a part of the subculture. Reviews fanzines that even I won't touch.

*****

EMANCIPATION Vol. 5 #11 ($4/year from the Anarchist Association of the Americas, Box 840, Washington, DC, 20044). This was not a very inspiring issue for the socially-concerned anarchist. The major part of the issue was devoted to "A Rioter's Perspective" (on the Washington anti-KKK riots), in which the writer expounds at length on how he got off throwing rocks at windows and police. If picked up by the establishment press, an article like this could set the cause of anarchy back sixty years. I hope it wasn't typical.

*****

Xerox this issue thanks to Yalda Bahut, child of chaos. Postage scraped together somehow. Folks, I'm back in school, so the budget has gotten tighter--there might not be an issue #6 unless I get some reader response. Is anyone listening?

Mike

DANGEROUS GAMES (The Destroyer #40), by Warren Murphy; Remo and Chiun are off to Moscow to stop some terrorists from offing the entire US Olympic team, with Remo entered in the half-miler. The terrorists are stopped with no problems, but Remo breaks training and Chiun's heart. Not one of the best; among other things, very blatant racism intrudes into the story, with no real reason. (★★★)

THE BIG TIME, by Fritz Leiber (Ace pb 1972); A Hugo-winning novel. Personally, I find this story hard to follow, though the "mystery" sub-plot is handled very well indeed. The overall plot resolution strikes me as far-fetched. One note: if you ever heard anyone refer to fen as "time-binders", this is where the term comes from. (★★★)

TIME OUT OF JOINT, by Philip K. Dick (Dell pb 1979); Like so many other Dick books, this one seems to suffer from having more ideas than plot. It starts out with what appears to be a foray into the nature of solipsism, but soon it seems that paranoia is the real problem of the protagonist--or is it? Keeps one reading without being really what one wants. (★★½★)

THE DEVIL'S ALTERNATIVE, by Frederick Forsyth (Bantam pb 1980); The author's notes indicate that he contemplated retirement rather than writing this novel; pity he changed his mind. An average, ho-hum spy thriller, without whatever it was that made DAY OF THE JACKAL and TEH ODESSA FILE so special. (★★)

THE STAINLESS STEEL RAT FOR PRESIDENT, by Harry Harrison (Doubleday hc 1982); Slippery Jim DiGriz is back, this time running for dictator of a backwards planet so he can get rid of the current bad guy. Harrison introduces a number of super-scientific marvels just long enough to solve one plot complication and then forgets all about them, with the result that this seems more a series of vignettes than a novel. I would have preferred to remember the Stainless Steel Rat in his former glory. (★)

GOVERNMENT BY GUNPLAY, by Sid Blumenthal and Harvey Yazijian (Signet pb 1976); A quick overview of assassination conspiracy theories, covering both Kennedys, King, and Wallace, as well as the FBI Cointelpro operations. Gives a good overview of the various theories surrounding the major crimes of the past twenty years without being really convincing about any one theory. (★★★½★)

THE PRINCE and THE DISCOURSES by Niccolo Machiavelli (Modern Library hc 1940); Interesting guy, Nicky. Despite all the bad things you've heard, he's in favor of a republic as the ideal form of government. However, his ideas for keeping the State in business make Dick Nixon look like Little Bo Peep. Not sensational, just interesting. (★★★)

LIFE, THUE UNIVERSE AND EVERYTHING, by Douglas Adams (Harmony Books 1982); The "cosmic conclusion" to the Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy trilogy. Adams is tired of writing this stuff, and it shows on every page. Not, in my opinion, worht buying, unless you're a completist or think the game of cricket is riotously funny. (★★)

THE WARLORD OF THE AIR, by Michael Moorcock (Daw pb 1978): One of the adventures of Oswald Bastable in alternate time streams. Moorcock manages to slip in a bit of philosophy and such now and then. My favorite quote: "I was faintly amused by the rivalries among the anarchists--or socialists or communards or whatever they chose to call themselves. Each seemed to have an individual dream of how the world should be and resented all other versions of that dream. If they could only agree on certain essentials, I thought, they would be rather more effective." (AAAA)

THE PARK IS MINE, by Stephen Peters (Warner pb 1982): An ex-GI suffering from combat psychosis takes over Central Park in New York with the aid of a huge arsenal he's buried there over the years and offs a lot of cops until the tough newswoman makes contact with him and gets him to stop. Absolutely hilarious. (AAA)

RIGHTS IN CONFLICT (Signet pb 1968): The official report of the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence about the 1968 Chicago riots. Interesting, with lots of pictures, but somehow the incidents reported seem very distant. Both the spirit of hope of the yippies and the utter brutality of the cops seem to have faded over the intervening years. (AA)

THE VALHALLA EXCHANGE, bu Harry Patterson (Fawcett pb 1976). Patterson is the real name--according to this book, anyhow--of Jack Higgins, author of THE EAGLE HAS LANDED and other thrillers. This is another World War II adventure story, in which Martin Bormann tries to arrange his escape from the collapsing wreckage of his Fuehrer's Germany. Fast-paced, but the plot is a bit weak. (AAA)

MEGATRENDS: Ten New Directions Transforming Our Lives, by John Naisbitt (Warner tpb 1982). Naisbitt is a futurist who makes his living projecting trends. This book summarizes what he believes are the most important trends in the country today. Some of his assertions are a bit ill-documented, and his overweening optimism is a bit much (apparently he believes that most of our biggest problems will softly and silently vanish away). As a whole, though, this is a thoughtful and thought-provoking book. Even if you don't agree with the author, it starts speculations about what will happen. (AAAA)

AN EXPENSIVE PLACE TO DIE, by Len Deighton (Berkley pb 1981): With the success of XPD and SS/GB, all of Len Deighton's earlier books are being reissued. This one was first published in 1967, and should have been left off at one printing (or less). A murky spy story, in which the author leaves enough things off-stage as to make it almost impossible to tell what's going on. While I appreciate this technique in the Jerry Cornelius mythos, it's out of place here. (A)

SLAM THE BIG DOOR, by John D. MacDonald (Fawcett pb 1960): A murky psychological story about a man who destroys himself and a bunch of other folks. Interesting without being compelling. Do people really act like this? The ones I know don't. (AA ½ A)

THE STEEL TSAR, by Michael Moorcock (Doubleday hc 1981). The third of the adventures of Captain Oswald Bastable, who keeps running across blimp-flying anarchists in the time-streams. This time around he runs into one Josef Dugashvili, who drops an atomic bomb on a batch of angry Ukranians. The moral questions continue to echo through the multiverse, but Bastable himself has retired to the Lower Devonian. It's just as well--he was wearing a bit thin. (AA ½ A)

TRIAL IN THE UPPER ROOM, by Paul Sann (Crown Publishers hc 1981). The author dies and goes to Heaven, where he is forced to defend his admittedly-tarnished record of life on Earth. Extremely witty, and contains interesting views of several people Sann wrote about while on earth (Illuminatus! fans will be interested to know that Dutch Shultz is one of them). A good book, even if the ending "twist" is sadly predictable. (AAA)

THE ANNOTATED ALICE, by Lewis Carroll, notes by Martin Gardner (Bramhall hc 1960). The original texts of ALICE IN WONDERLAND and THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS, with all of the Tenniel illustrations and fairly numerous marginal comments from one of our most known lovers of fantasy literature. Perhaps the only drawback is the lack of obscurities which need to be explain. What I'd like to see would be an ANNOTATED GULLIVER or perhaps an ANNOTATED FINNEGAN. (AAAA)

The Aristocrats' Greatest Secret...

"If everyone worked for free-
everything could be free."

Then their billions would be worthless!

<u>This would end</u>:

1. taxes
2. unemployment
3. inflation and recession
4. money, credit, barter, rent, mortgages
5. crime and prisons
6. wars and killing
7. pollution
8. hunger and starvation
9. unhappiness and loneliness
10. competition and inspire cooperation

Would you work for free if you could have everything you wanted for free?

Would your friends?

Reveal the Secret...Reprint it!

FIRST CLASS MAIL

From:

Mike Gunderloy
41 Lawrence St.
Medford, MA 02155

To: